



PTO/SB/21 (01-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

AF/2800

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/770,003
		Filing Date	January 25, 2001
		First Named Inventor	William Girzone
		Art Unit	2882
		Examiner Name	George Y. Wang
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	9	Attorney Docket Number	Girzone 2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

RECEIVED  
MAR 13 2003
**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual	Kevin J. Carroll; Devine, Millimet & Branch, P.A.	
Signature		
Date	3-3-03	

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

03/03/2003

Typed or printed	Heather Woods	
Signature		Date 3/3/2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer U S Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Reply under 37 CFR 1.116 –  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
Technology Center 2800

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : William Girzone  
Serial No.: 09/770,003  
Filed : 1/25/2001  
Title : GAS BLOCKING DEVICE FOR OPTICAL FIBER REPEATER

Art Unit : 2882  
Examiner : George Y. Wang  
Docket No.: Girzone 2

Box AF  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT/REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2002, please amend the application as follows and consider the following remarks.

In the Claims:

Please replace claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) An optical fiber device comprising:

a housing having a wall, wherein said housing is vacuum drawn and pressurized with a gas to prevent moisture from entering said housing;

an optical fiber holding tube extending through said wall and having a first end and a second end, said first end of said optical fiber holding tube contained in said housing and said second end of said optical fiber holding tube located outside of said housing;

a plurality of optical fibers extending from said first end of said optical fiber holding tube to said second end of said optical fiber holding tube without interruption; and

RECEIVED  
MAR 13 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

[ ] deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 3/3/2003

FACSIMILE

[ ] facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Heather Woods  
Signature

Heather Woods  
(Type or Print Name of Person Signing Certificate)